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6th Year

Up to February 7, 1969

3,263 U.S. aircraft downed
in North Viet Nam

SOUTH VIET NAM

A SERIES OF ATTACKS ON GI's IN SAIGON, HUE, DANANG:

HQ OF 101st AIRBORNE DIVISION, BASE CAMP OF 1st INFANTRY
DIVISION AND ELEMENTS OF 25th AND 9th INFANTRY DIVISIONS HIT



Young Liberation fighters

CAMBODIA'S HEAD OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT BACK VIET NAM POSITION AT PARIS CONFERENCE

(Text of Feb. 1, 1969 Statement)

NOW that the quadripartite Paris Conference on Viet Nam is underway, Samdech Norodom Sihamoni, Head of State, and the Royal Government of Cambodia, express the hope of the Khmer people for a happy outcome of the negotiations. For the honour of humanity it is important that an end be put as quickly as possible to the sufferings imposed on the Vietnamese people from outside and to the menace which is weighing on all the peoples of South-East Asia.

True to her policy of complete independence, Cambodia holds that the re-establishment of peace can be achieved only by the unconditional evacuation of the American troops from South Viet Nam and the recognition of the sacred rights of the Vietnamese people to settle their own affairs without foreign intervention or interference. Consequently, all the manoeuvres aimed at perpetuating the military occupation by the United States and imposing on the South Vietnamese people an unrepresentative regime must be condemned and denounced as conflicting with the American government's officially proclaimed intentions.

The Head of State and the Royal Government of Cambodia

reiterate their total support for the just and legitimate positions of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam at the Paris Conference. The reasonable proposals put forth by the authentic representatives of the Vietnamese people as a whole appear to be the only ones likely to bring an honourable solution to the war in Viet Nam. Cambodia, therefore, wishes that the new American administration show a wise and realistic attitude by accepting these proposals which are supported by all justice-upholding countries.

It would be tragic for the future of the world if the United States should dash the hopes generated by the opening of the Paris negotiations and play into the hands of those in Saigon whose aim it is only to prolong a war conducted in their interests against their own people. For their part, the Khmer people consider that if it sincerely so desires, the American Government can put an end to the conflict by recognizing without ambiguity the sovereignty and unity of Viet Nam, that is to say by complying with the legitimate demands of its Vietnamese interlocutors.

A Great Encouragement to Our People

(excerpts from a commentary
by Nhen Don on Feb. 4, 1969)

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3rd SESSION OF PARIS CONFERENCE ON VIET NAM

The 3rd session of the Paris Conference on Viet Nam took place on Feb. 6, 1969.

Taking the floor first, Mr. Tran Bau Kiem (NFL) dismissed the speeches made at the two previous sessions by the representatives of the United States and the Saigon Administration as naked attempts to cover up U.S. aggression, to justify the treason of the Saigon clique and to misrepresent the legitimate struggle of the 14 million South Vietnamese aided by their 17 million kith-and-kin in the North. This is the reason why the Paris Conference stumbled on difficulties right from the start.

The Front's delegate denounced the innumerable crimes committed by the U.S. imperialists and their agents in South Viet Nam, who brought to a standstill her economy, upset the life of her society, corrupted her culture and education, made her people's moral life unbearable and suppressed all democratic liberties.

All the allegations the U.S. and puppet representatives, Mr. Tran Bau Kiem said, "cannot justify

the U.S. war of aggression and obscure the fact that the Saigon administration represents only servitude and rottenness."

Outlining the process of the formation and development of the NFL, the organizer and leader of the victorious struggle waged by the South Vietnamese people, the NFL envoy dwelt on the soundness and appeal of the Front's Political Programme concerning both the resistance to U.S. imperialism and the building of a new South Viet Nam.

He expressed appreciation of the wholehearted assistance given to the South Vietnamese by the 17 million North Vietnamese, which is inherent in the absolutely legitimate brotherhood between the people of both zones. He refuted the U.S. puppet North Viet Nam's charge, and rejected their proposals to "restore of the people's moral life unbearable and suppressed all democratic liberties."

Underlining the soundness

of the NFL five points Mr. Tran Bau Kiem declared, "The U.S. representative should no longer try to shrink but should consider the urgent demand of the South Vietnamese people and the five points of the NFL."

In conclusion he reaffirmed the good will of the NFL whose delegation to the Paris Conference is ready to engage with the other delegations in discussions conducive to a reasonable solution of the South Viet Nam problem.

Taking the floor in his turn, Minister of State Xuan Thuy laid bare the U.S. puppet plan at the two previous sessions: the U.S. representative refused to examine the events in the past and their causes, while the puppet representative shamelessly pleaded for U.S. aggression and the Saigon clique's high treason.

It is the U.S. that flouted the right to self-determination of the Vietnamese people, the DRVN chief negotiator said, by inciting Ngo Dinh Diem to oppose the reunification of Viet Nam stipulated by the Geneva Agreements and to

create in the South an artificial state, as tool of U.S. neo-colonialism.

Speaking of the so-called "right to self-defence" referred to by the U.S. puppet representative, the North Vietnamese envoy commented that it was ludicrous of the aggressors and the traitors to say that they also were entitled to this right which belonged exclusively to the Vietnamese people.

The latter, the DRVN representative declared, are resolved to fight the U.S. aggressors in any part of their national territory.

Mr. Xuan Thuy once again pointed to the reasonableness of the DRVN's four points and the NFL's five points. He dismissed the U.S. proposal concerning the DMZ and concluded:

A Great Encouragement to Our People

(Excerpts from a commentary by Nhan Dan on Feb. 4, 1969)

The Feb. 1st statement of Head of State Norodom Sihanouk and the Royal Government of Cambodia is a striking manifestation of the vigorous and firm world-scale support for the position of the DRVN Government and of the South Viet Nam NFL. It is also a positive proof of the utter isolation of the United States and its henchmen before world public opinion. The statement highlights this simple truth which cannot be denied in any way by the U.S. as U.S. aggression is the source and immediate cause of the serious situation now obtaining in South Viet Nam, any sound political solution to the Viet Nam problem must be based on the cessation of this aggression and the Vietnamese people's fundamental national rights.

The statement condemns all manoeuvres aimed at perpetuating U.S. military occupation and imposing on the South Vietnamese people an unrepresentative regime. It bluntly tells the new U.S. administration that if it wants to give a proof of its wisdom and its sense of realism, if it desires an "honourable solution", it should accept the proposals put forward by the DRVN and the NFL which are "the only ones likely to bring an honourable solution to the war in Viet Nam" and which are "supported by all justice-upholding countries".

In their fight against U.S. aggression, for national salvation of the Vietnamese people have been constantly enjoying the heartfelt support and strong encouragement from Head of State Norodom Sihanouk and the Royal Government of Cambodia. Deeply aware that the essence of the Viet Nam question is the cruel aggression by the United States, Head of State Norodom Sihanouk has on many occasions expressed his sympathy with, and support for, the Vietnamese people. On many occasions he stressed Cambodia's resolute support for fighting Viet Nam and forcefully condemned the U.S. aggressive war in Viet Nam. He has made it clear that Cambodia recognizes South Viet Nam NFL as the genuine representative of the South Vietnamese people, fully supports the position of the South Viet Nam NFL and the DRVN Government on the settlement of the Viet Nam question, and considers the victory of the DRVN Government and the South Viet Nam NFL as a victory of all freedom-loving people in the world.

The Feb. 1st statement of Head of State Norodom Sihanouk and the Royal Government of Cambodia is a great encouragement to the Vietnamese people who are concentrating efforts on stepping up their struggle on the three fronts, military, political and diplomatic, in order to defeat completely the U.S. aggression, liberate the South, defend the North and ultimately reunify the country.

The Vietnamese people express sincere thanks to Head of State Norodom Sihanouk and the Royal Government of Cambodia and the brotherly people of Cambodia.

"Let the U.S. stop its aggression and peace will be restored at once. To claim that one is disposed to settle the Viet Nam question and at the same time refuse to talk in earnest with the NFL is tantamount to being unwilling to settle anything. We call for U.S. good faith at this quadripartite conference on Viet Nam, so as to promptly achieve a sound solution to the Viet Nam problem."

When the session resumed after a short break U.S. representative H. Cabot Lodge argued again in favour of U.S. aggressive war and neo-colonialism. He went even to the lengths of asserting that the American Expeditionary Corps had been sent to South Viet Nam to defend the South

(Continued page 7)

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THE NORTH—GREAT REAR BASE OF THE SOUTH SUCCESSES IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

N conducting their war of aggression against North Viet Nam, the U.S. imperialists obviously sought, besides other objectives, to paralyze its agricultural production.

For 4 years running, the U.S. Air and Naval forces attacked without let-up the dyke systems and hydraulic works. They dropped hundreds of thousands of tons of bombs on villages and ricefields, killing or wounding peasants and draught animals at work. In some areas such as Vinh Linh and Quang Binh, the destruction assumed truly genocidal proportions; in some localities, U.S. aircraft sprayed toxic chemicals, killing animals and ruining the crops.

By so doing, Washington thought it would be able to bring the North Vietnamese to their knees. But it was mistaken. Over the past 4 years, co-operative farmers in North Viet Nam have been clinging to their fields and their villages and have managed to keep up the boosting of production. They have performed splendid exploits. They have shown themselves quite worthy of a people who, in the course of a 4,000-year history marked incessantly by an arduous and successful resistance against foreign invasion, have never run short of supplies.

In 1964, a year of peace, North Viet Nam had only 2 districts credited with the average yield of 5 tons of paddy per hectare. The co-operatives, however, against only 1.3 tons under the colonial and feudal regime. In 1967, when the war was at its broadest and fiercest, the province of Thai Binh, the rural districts of Hanoi, 30 districts and 2,485 agricultural co-ops hit this mark; many of these having even obtained 7 to 8 tons of paddy per hectare, 2 districts achieved

the norm in pig-rearing and many co-ops attained all the 3 objectives: 5 tons or paddy rice per hectare per year (2 crops), 2 pigs bred per hectare under crop and one hand for each hectare of cultivated land.

In putting into practice the directives of the Party and Government calling for a balanced and diversified development of agriculture, local authorities have paid great attention to the growing of vegetables, subsidiary food crops, industrial plants and animal husbandry. Compared with 1964, the cultivated areas in 1967 increased respectively by 50% for vegetables, 35,000 hectares for sweet potatoes, 7,500 hectares for manioc, 13,500 hectares for soya bean and 2,500 hectare for groundnut. In 1966, live-stock rose, compared with 1965, by 3.1% for buffaloes, 6.2% for pigs, 4.5% for horses, 4.5% for goats and 5% for ducks and geese. The areas of fish-rearing ponds and ricefields expanded by 3%.

What are the causes of this success? In the first place, we must mention the factor of a decisive character in the development of agricultural production: the constant consolidation and improvement of the agricultural co-ops. The co-operative farmers and their families, and co-operatives have been brought closer day by day by the very atrocious war: 95% of the peasant households have joined the co-ops. In areas which were enemy selected targets, such as Vinh Linh and Quang Binh, this rate was 97% and even 100%, 77% of the co-ops have been

to a higher-socialist-level.

The growth of the co-ops in size and their progressive lifting to a high level have made possible a more rational distribution of manpower and a more effective building of material and technical foundations for agriculture. A developed intensive cultivation, multiplication of different branches of production, enlargement of the lines of goods and gradual elimination of antieconomic monoculture of the former small production. On the other hand, the progress of co-operativization also creates favourable conditions for an accelerated mobilization of man-power and resources to achieve victory over U.S. aggression and proceed with socialist construction.

Next, the application of science and new techniques in agriculture has not the least slackened and the Party and Government have readjusted the building of the material and technical foundations of socialism to war-time conditions.

In the field of agricultural hydraulics emphasis has been put on the building of medium and small-sized projects coupled with the relaying out of ricefields (1). At the same time measures were taken—and are being taken—to ensure the defence of major key projects against bombing and to make the most of their capacity. The climatic conditions have recorded over the past years most erratic changes, which added natural calamities to enemy destructions, our co-operatives farmers surmounted all difficulties. The irrigated areas not only were maintained but also grew by from 84.5% in 1964 to 86.9% of the cultivated areas in 1967.

In order to step up intensive cultivation and raise crop yields, agricultural co-ops have formed teams specializing in the preparation of manure, built installations to this end, made the most of all sources of manure to improve the soil: stable litter, night soil, green leaves, lime stone, etc... Azolla and sesbania cratallaria, rich in nitrogen, have been cultivated in all provinces. During the 1967 summer cultivation, the acreage fertilized with azolla reached 350,000 hectares. Many provinces such as Nam Ha, Thai Binh and Vinh Linh, fed from 8 to 10 tons of manure for each cultivated hectare for each crop, or from 50 to 100% more than the pre-war period. Many co-ops even raised these figures to 20 or 24 tons.

Selected seeds have replaced the old strains in a large proportion. Main rice-growing provinces such as Thai Binh, Nam Ha and Nam Ha, etc., have ousted old varieties of rice at the rate of from 80 to 90 per cent.

Farm tools have been provided in adequate quantity to peasants who also receive a large supply of improved implements and, step by step, agricultural machinery. They are equipped with small engineering facilities operating 5 types of machines: water pumps, hushers, threshers, winnowers and chaff-cutters. By the end of 1967, 60% of the co-ops had possessed pumps and hushers machines.

The contingent of agricultural technicians consists at present of thousands of university-trained cadres, and tens of thousands of middle-level and primary-level cadres, qualified for different specialties: cultivation, phytopathology, animal husbandry, etc.

(1) To facilitate irrigation work, they plots of ricefields have been re-arranged into larger ones, which is unfeasible unless the co-ops are brought to a socialist level.

Aware of the importance of this project, the farmers of the North did their best to help carry it out, contributing labour, money and tools. Small children also did their bit by collecting old bricks, tiles and scrap iron. All those who knew smithy and carpentry were drafted to make the core of the handicraft teams. Tens of thousands of people went to learn to handle other tools or to get acquainted with smithy, electricity and machine repairing.

dry, veterinary medicine, etc.

At least all co-ops possess one or two middle-level or primary-level cadres, some a university-trained cadre. In addition every year or even every crop season, seminars have been held at various levels for popularization of new farm techniques and experimentation in intensive cultivation of some varieties of plants, with the participation of millions of cadres and co-operative farmers. The application of science and new techniques in agriculture has become a broad and powerful mass movement.

The successes obtained by the class of co-operative farmers in North Viet Nam in agricultural production over the past 4 years admit an atrocious cost and recurrent natural calamities are very important; they are of a deep revolutionary significance. They constitute an achievement of the traditional industriousness and fortitude of the Vietnamese peasants, the judicious policy of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the DRVN Government in the field of agricultural production, and the new relations of production. They place on a new basis the strategically important successes won in recent days by the people of the two zones of the DRVN, which compelled the U.S. imperialists to unconditionally stop the bombardments of the DRVN and to enter into talks with the South Viet Nam NFL at the Paris quadripartite Conference.

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The Provincial Service of Industry sent technicians to help U.S. build its industry. Enterprises in the province and district also contributed to it. The motor launch and boat-building factory volunteered to install bellows. The sawmill of X. and the district Tractor Station also provided useful equipment.

A festive air prevailed over the village. Here was a young man who had been there foundations were being dug to shelter machines. Tractors roared past on the road. Young people were in the hamlets. Beneath the shade of bamboo-trees, technicians showed farmers how to operate machines. In the co-ops, old workers Sol and Thanh taught young men the

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ANECDOTES AROUND THE PARIS CONFERENCE

A U.S. TRICKY PROPOSAL

At the Kieboer Street Conference room, U.S. representative H. Cabot Lodge referred to the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam and said that his Government had declared its willingness to respect the Agreements. His only purpose, however, in recalling them was to put forward the U.S. shop-worn "concrete proposal" to restore the DMZ to its original status, while ignoring all other fundamental clauses of the Geneva Agreements.

On U.S. command, Saigon puppet's representative Pham Dang Lam also mentioned many times the same Accords. He racked his brain to plead that the sending of thousands of U.S. advisers and military personnel in 1967 and subsequent years to South Viet Nam, and the commitment on mass of over half a million GIs there since 1965 were by no means violations of the Geneva Agreements. He even went to the point of length of absurdity to assert that these Agreements recognized the independence and sovereignty of the so-called Republic of Viet Nam.

So, as a matter of fact, the U.S. and its henchmen never libel protesting their respect for the Geneva Agreements

when it comes to use them for some tricky game. But sometimes they are hoist by their own petard, which completely exposes their real faces as aggressors and traitors.

In the Segur Street Press Conference Hall, the afternoon of Jan. 31, 1969, the puppet's spokesman was bragging of their "implementation" of the Geneva Accords when a *Newsweek* correspondent asked him, "For people like you who had been following the Viet Nam question for quite a long time and who had heard the Geneva Conference in 1954, the Geneva Accords are understood to stipulate that there should be general elections in July 1966 with a view to reunifying Viet Nam. How then would you explain the fact there was no free nationwide elections in Viet Nam in 1967?"

The puppet's spokesman visibly embarrassed went on however to declare shamelessly that in the Geneva documents there was no reference to the 1956 deadline. A French journalist commented on hearing the statement, "This is every inch a traitor's answer."

A PUPPET'S IMBECILE QUESTION

Beside Nguyen Cao Ky's wife

and a batch of hoodlums who is to serve as its "claque" the puppet delegation to the quadripartite conference also had brought from Saigon a number of pen-valets, among other women and whose part it was to act as agents provocateurs.

At the Jan. 25, 1969 plenary session of the Conference, Saigon puppet's representative Pham Dang Lam thought he was being very witty when he asked the NFL delegation to back with concrete evidence the Front's claim of having liberated 200,000 South Viet Nam. There and then he was properly handled by the Front's envoy.

At the news conference held on Jan. 30 by Ly Van San, the NFL delegation's spokesman, a paid pressman from Saigon drawing no lesson from the puppet's rebuff, repeated word by word Pham Dang Lam's question, only to receive a similar rebuff. "To have an idea of the extent of the liberated areas in South Viet Nam just ask anybody from Saigon. This city is shaking every day with the rumble of U.S. bombs dropped from its on people living only dozens of kilometres away from it. If the U.S. now controlling Saigon while should it bomb the city outskirts at random like that?"

An American journalist had only this to say about the question asked by the back: "What an imbecile query!"

On Jan. 25, 1969, the Committee to Denounce War Crimes Committed by the U.S. Imperialists and their henchmen in South Viet Nam issued a communique on the stepped-up use of chemical weapons by the Americans against the South Vietnamese people in 1968.

The communique quoted the American daily "Los Angeles Times" (Sept. 19, 1968) as revealing that Washington has spent some 71 million dollars on toxic chemicals, i.e., twice as many as in 1967. A new plant built by the Pentagon was scheduled to produce 30 million litres of toxic chemicals per annum for the war of aggression in Viet Nam.

In 1968, the communique reported, the U.S. aggressors sprayed in thousands of tonnes, toxic chemicals and gas on about thirty provinces in South Viet Nam, inflicting many casualties and heavy losses on the civilian population.

In February and March, more than 500 sq. kilometres of crops in the districts of Cam Lai and Gio Linh in north Quang Tri were destroyed and thousands of people poisoned by U.S. chemicals. During the same period, just before harvest time, U.S. planes dumped chemicals on fields grown with 3rd lunar month rice in Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, Binh Dinh, Phu Yen, Khanh Hoa,

EXTENSIVE CHEMICAL WARFARE AGAINST CIVILIANS

Phieu and Quang Do provinces. U.S. chemicals killed 42 children aged from 1 to 10 in Hoi Mi village, Hoi Nhon district, Binh Dinh province.

Between the beginning of June and the end of September, U.S. chemicals were repeatedly used against 15 villages in Que Son, Tien Phuoc and Tam Ky districts (Quang Nam province), destroying thousands of hectares of manioc and maize and hundreds of hectares of rice. Hundreds of people were affected, fifty old persons and children among them fatally.

In October, gas shells lobbed on Ta Con and Gioi Cham in Binh Thuan province seriously poisoned many people.

Since the beginning of the year, the U.S. aggressors used chemicals on strategic hamlets and U.S.-Saigon-controlled villages in La Ria, Long Khanh and Tay Ninh provinces caused heavy losses to the people. From mid-August to mid-September, the U.S. aggressors kept using chemicals against civilians

in Tay Ninh province, especially along Highway 22, in Cha La, Can Khoi, Ben Cui, and Suoi Ong Hung areas, and in strategic hamlets on both sides of Highway 22 (from Tay Ninh to Go Dau). U.S. chemicals not only destroyed crops but also killed domestic animals and seriously affected human beings (in particular the digestive system, the liver, the kidneys, the heart and the muscles).

According to incomplete data, in 1968, hundreds of tons of chemical spraying on the provinces of Central Nam Bo densely-populated areas covered with rich crops, killed hundreds and poisoned thousands of people (mostly women and children) and destroyed more than 30,000 hectares of crops. In My Tho province, a score of villages were sprayed in chemicals and the leaves were choked or vomited. Many houses and property of the inhabitants were burned by phosphorus bombs. The Lon area in Saigon was sprayed with gas on June 3.

were affected. Almost all the inhabitants of Ho An and Hoa Thinh hamlets suffered from paralysis in their limbs and vomited repeatedly. The three villages of Tan Huong, Tan Ly Dong and Than Can Nghia had on Oct. 6 hundreds of people poisoned; about thirty of them died on the spot.

Ca Mau province was also hit by U.S. chemical poisons. On Oct. 9 crane helicopters dropped about twenty barrels of chemicals on a hamlet in Tan Thuan village, on a length of 1,200 metres. The wind carried the chemicals 2 kilometres farther, 400 people, most of them old people and children, were affected.

On April 7, U.S. planes raided Binh Thanh village (Kien Phong province) twice, releasing 5 tons of toxic gas: over 200 people, most of them old people, women and children, were seriously poisoned. Meanwhile, U.S. helicopter gunships indis-

criminately shot at houses, killing tens of people.

U.S. toxic chemicals and gas were also used massively against the urban population in South Viet Nam, the communique added.

On Jan. 30, many people in Hue, affected by U.S. chemicals, vomited and lost consciousness. In the first fortnight of February, U.S. crane helicopters dropped about twenty barrels of chemicals on a hamlet in Tan Thuan village, on a length of 1,200 metres. The wind carried the chemicals 2 kilometres farther, 400 people, most of them old people and children, were affected.

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MASSACRES OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Another statement of the Committee to Denounce War Crimes Committed by the U.S. Imperialists and their Henchmen in South Viet Nam revealed that in execution of their "accelerated pacification" programme, the aggressors and their agents had resorted to the most barbarous means to force the populations of many villages out of their native places into disguised concentration camps dubbed "new life hamlets".

The following typical cases of brutality were cited: On Dec. 20, 1968, puppet commandos with the help of U.S. "Cavalrymen" killed Mr. Tho, Mr. Tue and Mr. He, relatives of puppet troops in Tra Cu area, Long An province.

On Jan. 4, "Cavalrymen" sank a motor boat with many puppet troops' relatives on board on the Van Co river, Long An province, killing 19 people, mostly women and children.

On Jan. 15, U.S. "Cavalrymen" conducted a terror raid on a hamlet in My Thanh Dong village, same province. After ransacking, destroying

or burning many houses, they dragged Mrs. Hien out of her shelter and tried to rape her. The woman resisted with all her strength. Her father, Mr. Nguyen Van Sai, who rushed out to her rescue, was bayoneted to death. After killing the old man the GIs took turns in raping her to death.

As their doomsday approaches, the Thieu-Kieu-Huong puppet administration is struggling desperately with multiple difficulties in all fields: military, political, economic, financial, monetary... They are trying by every means to solve the "problem of expenditures" for their traitorous war of failure of which they themselves believe inevitable.

Proportionately to the expansion of the "limited war" in South Viet Nam, the budget of the puppet regime has been swelling at an alarming rate. From 16.5 billion piasters (South Viet Nam currency) in 1967, it soared to 46

billions or nearly three times in 1968, the first year of the "limited war". In 1968 it rose to 11 billion or seven times the level of 1967, the first year of the "special war". The two sources for 1969 amounts to 130 billion. But, in view of the present accumulating troubles, this budget is certain to increase further.

The cause of this spiraling in the Saigon budget lies actually in the fact that the aggressive and traitorous war conducted by the U.S. and the puppet administration has been leading steadily, forcing them to take drastic measures to cope with the situation. And what are their expedients on this score?

The first leverage used by the puppet administration to finance its war budget is the U.S. "aid". It is precisely because it has accepted U.S. "aid" and the role of a tool of U.S. neo-colonialism that the Saigon administration has always been under the obligation of constantly broadening the war of aggression of the U.S. imperialists. The essential elements of the neo-colonialism practised by U.S. imperialism consist in using Asians to fight Asians and "feeding war with war". That is why, how substantial it may be, "aid" only covers part of the war expenditures of the puppet regime. For example, in the 1968-1969 budget of the Saigon administration, U.S. "aid" was expected to amount to 25 billion South Viet Nam piasters annually. But the war budget of aggression as well as gradualism would completely run counter to the U.S. policy of broadening its war of aggression. That is why, not only have war expenditures been spiralling quickly every year but budget plans to increase have also been repeatedly upset.

Another difficulty encountered by the puppet administration in its attempt to reduce expenses is the fact that its budget, in addition to being a war budget, is also plagued by the cost of a heavy bureaucratic apparatus. Budget appropriations for economic construction and cultural projects are negligible. The same daily "Chinh Luam" on October 4, 1968 remarked:

"In spite of the efforts to cut down expenditures, it is still impossible to reduce public expenses by two or three billion as planned since the wage fund already accounted for 70% of the budget".

Thus, in order to achieve some balance between revenue and expenditures in an already too deficient budget, there is at present only one alternative for the Saigon regime: to issue more banknotes to meet the quickly rising outlay.

The inflationary measures taken by the Saigon administration to defray the huge expenses of its traitorous war have made "cheapness" bound. The volume of bank-notes in circulation rose from 27 billion piasters at the end of 1967 to 100 billion by about June 1968, a monthly rate of 1.7 billion within a period of 18 months. Between June 1966 and December 1967, 21 more billion were added to the currency, or an average of 1.2 billion per month. Again, in the first six months of 1968 another 21 billion were put in circulation, or a monthly increase of 3.2 billion. It was estimated that by December 1968 the volume of banknotes in circulation was in the region of 160 billion. However, it was predicted a deficit of 50 billion (projected spending: 130 billion; projected revenue: 80 billion). However, it may be more realistic to foresee that spending would exceed the planned figure by at least 20 billion (in 1968 the excess was 16 billion) and revenue would be 60 billion and purposes, fall 55 billion short of the proposed target.

Thus, the budget deficit is now facing the Saigon administration — with deduction made of the 25 billion U.S. dollar "aid" — and supposing that the tax income project will be fulfilled — would run to 100 billion or more. This is an awful inflationary step under the Thieu-Kieu-Huong puppet rule and will certainly lead to the devaluation of the piaster as in 1966.

bodies were either mutilated or charred.

Mrs. Nguyen Thi Xiong, 60, died with her grand child in her arms.

Mrs. Nguyen Thi U who was with child was burned to death.

Mrs. Nguyen Thi Hum, another pregnant woman and mother of 5 children, was also burned to death. Her other 5 children died, their arms still embracing their mother.

Two children who tried to escape were caught by the GIs and smothered to death.

All the victims were Catholics of Hiep Hoa, Long An province.

Thus, 30 women and children on a small bit of

land were massacred by U.S. "Cavalrymen".

The Committee to Denounce War Crimes Committed by the U.S. Imperialists and their Henchmen in South Viet Nam earnestly calls on international democratic organizations, international committees and the International Information Centre to Denounce U.S. crimes and to take every measure to stop the barbarous U.S. crimes and to put an end to the just struggle of the Vietnamese people for national salvation until total victory.

Saigon Currency Keeps Depreciating

PHAM THANH VINH

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South Viet Nam Liberated Zone Grows Ever Steadier

WESTERN NAM BO PEASANTS RESOLVED TO REAP A "DEFEAT-THE-YANKS" AUTUMN CROP

In their Autumn crop last year, peasants in Western Nam Bo encountered far greater difficulties than the previous years. Yet, with their firm resolve to defeat the U.S. aggressors on the production front, they went all out to build 90 kilometres of dykes against sea water flooding and more than 2,500 kilometres of small dams to store water, sink nearly 190 kilometres of irrigation canals and over 4,000 km of ditches to drain the water heavily charged with alum and built 1,261 dams to conserve water.

In Tra Vinh, in 7 days alone, an aggregate 1,600 people in Vung Lien district took part in digging a 300-metre canal, building and repairing 30 irrigation dams, sinking 20 dykes and bringing water to ricefields with the help of thousands of pumps. With adequate water supply, the peasants were able to transplant rice in season on 300 hectares of dry fields and put 775 hectares of land under early rice. Peasants of Tra On district in particular braved fierce enemy bombing and shelling and succeeded in planting 1,644 ha of early rice, or

60 ha more than the previous year.

In Gia Rai district (Ca Mau) the peasants exerted every effort to store fresh water and build dykes against sea water, thereby preserving 2,700 hectares of rice fields and 20,000 tons of salt.

Alongside the battle against drought and for increased production, peasants in Western Nam Bo reclaimed more than 9,000 hectares of waste land and nearly 7,000 hectares of "new" and drew nearly 250 hectares of fruit trees.

At present they are making preparations in the spirit of emulation for a quick and neat harvest of the crop with minimum waste and for its swift dispersion and good storage when shipping up contributions to the Liberation Funds.

CENTRAL NAM BO DANCE AND SONG ENSEMBLES PERFORM ON THE FIRING LINE

Last year, in spite of difficulties more than 20 district and provincial dance and song ensembles in the Central Nam Bo sang to the enemy bombing and shelling the combatants; they took part in the fighting in their

own way with their revolutionary songs and music.

According to still incomplete statistics, in the last 8 months of 1968, these troupes gave 3,233 performances to an audience totalling 700,000.

Shock dance and song troupes fearlessly were active within enemy gun ranges, close to enemy posts in combat trenches, and on the edges of provincial capitals and district towns. The shock dance and song group of Ben Tre was constantly giving shows on the outer belt of the provincial capital.

That of My Tho entertained spectators from the Co Gao and Chau Thanh districts along Highway No 4. That of Kien Phong operated regularly in Northern and Southern Gao Lanh. That of Kien Tuong slipped into villages of Chau Thanh and Tan An districts to amuse the local inhabitants. Religious and minority peoples in An Giang also attended frequently performances of troupes. Everywhere, the artists worked to stimulate the general offensives and uprisings, exhort people to join in the fighting and boost production, and win puppet army men over to the side of the Revolution.

In Ben Tre, the provincial ensemble gave 57 performances to 10,900 aggregate audience

totaling 32,870. The troupes of Gong Trom, Chau Thanh, Thanh Phu, Ba Tri and Binh Dai put up 757 shows for a total of 300,000 spectators.

The ensemble of the people of the Khmer origin (An Giang) composed itself many dances based on traditional folk art.

Of Quang Nam province, the educational service of Binh Son District not only functioned normally but also developed comprehensively pre-school, primary, elementary and mass education. In many villages, nearly too per cent of the school-age children received schooling. Illiteracy was wiped out in villages X, Y, and adult education was in full swing.

In various provinces, complementary education for children was far more stepped up. Complementary education schools in the delta and upland provinces and regular complementary education schools in mountain districts were kept uninterrupted.

With the establishment of revolutionary power in various provinces, new favourable conditions now exist for the educational service in Central Trang Bo to progress toward still greater successes.

Public health in the Southern Sector of the Western Highlands in service of the armed forces and people

Immediated after the order had been given by the NLF CC for the general offensives and uprisings, hundreds of

pre-school to elementary education. In the uplands, mobile medical teams to serve combat units, carriers on the firing-lines and civilians in the vicinity of cities and towns.

In the first 11 months of 1968, the Civilian Medical Service in the Southern sector of the Western Highlands, winning through great difficulties and combining Western and Eastern medicine, successfully treated 14,513 cases, some of them very serious, and gave more than 30,000 anti-epidemic inoculations.

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News from LAOS

Lower Laos: 212 ENEMY CASUALTIES IN A MONTH

WITHIN a month ending January 31, the patriotic armed forces in Lower Laos put out of action 212 enemy troops, and destroyed or seized large quantities of weapons, KPT, reported.

In Saravane, on Dec. 28, 1968 and Jan. 6, 1969 the regional army shelled the Saravane airfield, heavily damaged a US C-120 cargo plane, the runway and several stores, and killing many adverse soldiers.

In Savannakhet, the regional army and guerrillas, countering an enemy raid conducted by a puppet company, on Dec. 12 destroyed the enemy's CP. Three enemy troops were killed and the rest put to flight.

In Attapeu, repeatedly between Dec. 28, 1968 and Jan. 1, 1969 the patriots fired heavy guns on enemy positions, including the HQ of a puppet regiment. Initial reports listed 84 enemy troops wiped out, and a large

number of weapons including big guns captured by the patriots.

In Thateng area (Boloven Plateau) the patriots intercepted on Jan. 10 raiders on the road to Huosai, killing 12 of them and wounding many others. The next day, another enemy raid on the surroundings of Thateng township was fought off. The guerrillas badly trounced a relief platoon, killing 13 adverse troops.

Malaya's National Liberation Movement Makes New Progress

THE Malayan people are endowed with traditions of heroic struggle against imperialists and aggressive colonialists for independence and freedom.

28 years ago, while the war against the Nazis was raging in Europe, Japanese fascist troops invaded many Asian countries. On Dec. 7, 1941 they launched violent attacks on Malaya, defeating 80,000 troops of the British colonialists. Facing the invaders, the Malayan Communist Party, holding aloft the banner of national liberation, set up combat detachments including tens of thousands of young volunteers.

In Sept. 1945 the Japanese capitulated. The British imperialists, under the cloak of the "Allied", staged a

comeback to Malaya. On the pretence of disarming the Japanese, they tried to suppress the movement of national liberation and place again the Malayan people under their yoke.

At that critical time, the Malayan Communist Party called on the entire people to rise against the British colonialists. On Feb. 1, 1946 - 20 years ago - it founded the National Liberation Army of Malaya, which gathered the best children of various Malayan nationalities for the struggle against the British colonialists, for national salvation. This army has ever since been carrying on the struggle against the British and American imperialists and their henchmen to re-conquer the true independence and freedom of the country.

Over the past years, the movement of national and democratic revolution has been making new progress in Malaya. In many urban and rural areas, workers, farmers, students and other progressive forces have launched several actions while guerrilla units of the National Liberation Army have inflicted heavy losses on the enemy in numerous mountain areas, especially in the north west, on the Thailand border.

The Vietnamese people unreservedly support the just struggle of the Malayan people for independence and freedom and are firmly confident that the Malayan people will win final victory.

The whole world on our side

Progressive World Reaffirms Firm Support For Vietnamese People

country's will for the immediate and definitive end of U.S. aggression on Viet Nam.

— The paper "Avec le Viet Nam" (Siding with Viet Nam) to appear and supply facts on the odious war carried out by U.S. imperialism.

On Jan. 15, 500 representatives of the trade-unions of Paris and of its neighbourhood held a meeting to support the Vietnamese people and welcome a delegation of the World Federation of Trade Unions coming to Paris to voice support to the struggle of the Vietnamese people.

In his speech, Benoit Frachon, President of the French CGT and Vice-President of the World Federation of Trade Unions, underscored the determination of the workers and labouring people of France and other countries to step up the struggle for the ending by the U.S. Government of its aggression in Viet Nam and for the U.S. withdrawal of its troops from South Viet Nam.

In the name of the WFTU Delegation, Renato Bitossi reaffirmed the will of the 140 million workers and labourers, members of the WFTU to carry on their fight until the USA puts an end to the war of aggression in Viet Nam and withdraws its troops from South Viet Nam. This resolve was expressed in a resolution addressed on Jan. 15 to the U.S. Delegation in Paris.

— On Jan. 20 and 21, 1969, the Swedish Committee of Solidarity with Vietnamese People convened meetings in several towns to support the Vietnamese people in their struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation. In Uddevalla, members of the Swedish Democratic Socialist Youth distributed leaflets for the end of the U.S. war of aggression in Viet Nam, withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Viet Nam and for popular support for the South Viet Nam NFL.

Hail The "Solidarity With The People of Angola" Day (February 4)

ANGOLA was the first of the Portuguese colonies in Africa to rise up in arms for national independence. Since the daring attack mounted on the night of Feb. 4, 1961 on the Sao Paulo prison in Luanda, the patriotic armed forces of Angola have been persistently pursuing their fight for national liberation and have gained many successes.

At present, they control about one-third of the Angolan territory and are pushing up their actions on three fronts, in the East, in the central regions (60 km from Luanda) and in the North (in Cabinda).

In collusion with the reactionary governments of South Africa and Rhodesia and backed by the member

countries of the NATO aggressive bloc headed by U.S. imperialism, the Portuguese colonialists have been frenziedly trying to crush the patriotic movement in Angola. They have raised the troop strength in Angola to more than 50,000 men, and been carrying out many "mopping up" operations against the liberated zone, mass massacring civilians, burning down whole villages, killing domestic animals and herding the population into concentration camps with a view to isolating the Angolan patriotic armed forces.

However, now that the Angolese people have awakened, a series of African countries have recovered their political independence, and the national liberation movement of the other

peoples in the world is irresistibly and successfully forging ahead the Portuguese colonialists, though they strive desperately to hold onto their colonial rule, will not escape final defeat. Just as the President of the Angolese National Liberation Movement has declared, the Angolese people are siding with the patriotic forces by enthusiastically joining guerrilla units, and the flames of the armed struggle will surely spread to many other localities.

The Vietnamese people fully support the gallant struggle of the Angolese people against the Portuguese colonialists until the banner of freedom flutters high over the whole Angolan territory.

JANUARY 1969...

(Continued from page 8)

The province recently resulted in 75 aircraft wrecked and over 200 GIs among them two field officers killed. The base camp of a brigade of the U.S. 173rd Airborne Brigade in Lam Dong province on the High Plateaux was overrun with over 200 U.S. troops wiped out, and 600 houses, 34 barracks and 34 military vehicles destroyed.

Enemy communication lines cut off.

Roads and waterways became more unsafe to the enemy than ever. On the Long Tan River system, the main lifeline linking Saigon to the military port at Vung Tau, 8 big military cargo ships were sunk or shot ablaze within 11 days. Most of the rivers in the Mekong delta have come under the control of the guerrillas and regional forces in spite of the enemy "river fleet" tactics. In fact, the patriotic fighters sank or set fire to 10 gunboats or combat launches on Vam Co Dong, Vam Co Tay and Bay Hap rivers between January 11 and 18.

On strategic Highway 4 in My Tho province alone, guerrillas and the regional forces in the ten days ending January 17 put out of action over 40 GIs and 11 military vehicles. Between January 8 to 12, PLAF fighters along Highways 13 and 12 in Binh Long province wrote off 5 Amer-

ican companies and heavily whittled down another, destroyed 60 military vehicles including 29 tanks and armoured cars, and downed 6 aircraft. On various roads in Tay Ninh province, 3 whole puppet companies and hundreds of GIs and puppet troops were wiped out, 40 military vehicles put out of action and 4 aircraft downed between January 5 and 15. The ambushes on the Dakto-Kontum road from January 2 to 20 resulted in 30 military vehicles destroyed. During the three days ending January 17, enemy forces were repeatedly ambushed at the Mang Giang Pass (Gia Lai) and lost 40 vehicles including 23 tanks and armoured troops carriers. Hailing the enemy at the Hai Van pass on January 14, the PLAF destroyed 6 trucks laden with troops and 11 others transporting military supplies.

Meanwhile, guerrilla warfare developed vigorously in the towns, with patriotic fighters liquidating a greater number of enemy agents while foiling the enemy's "accelerated pacification" programme. On the other hand, the so-called "civil guards" of the puppets proved incapable of coping with the guerrillas. The anti-war movement was spreading in the puppet army as well as in U.S. forces, with repeated strikes for an end to the U.S. war, for peace and repatriation of GIs.

South of Hue city, on Jan. 24, the PLAF artillery opened intense fire on the operational headquarters of a U.S. airborne unit 14 km south of Phu Bai and 20 km south of Hue. Afterwards, the PLAF

Military Operations...

(Continued from page 8)

Kien Tuong, Chau Doi failed all the U.S. puppet "accelerated pacification" sweeps, of American troops including soldiers, sank or set afire 12 helicopters, and 12 military vehicles. (Enemy casualties were 250 in My Tho, 300 in Ben Tre and 150 in Kien Tuong).

DA NANG REGION

GPA reports said that on Jan. 17, 1969 the PLAF penetrated into the big U.S. supply base in Bau Mac 1 km north of Da Nang, burnt down 500 stores and 31 military vehicles of various kinds, killing 50 US troops. Earlier, on Jan. 3, the PLAF launched a surprise attack on the supply base of the 6th district, 3 km west of Quy Nhon town, burnt down 3 fuel storages containing 8 million litres, 40 ammunition stores and 30 crates of military supplies freshly unloaded.

In addition, from Jan. 3 to 15, 1969 the regional forces and the homeguards in Hai An town, Da Nang city and the Dien Ban and Dai Loc districts intercepted enemy raiders, took a toll of 1,000, shot down 4 helicopters.

South of Hue city, on Jan. 24, the PLAF artillery opened intense fire on the operational headquarters of a U.S. airborne unit 14 km south of Phu Bai and 20 km south of Hue. Afterwards, the PLAF

ground-assaulted the enemy position, overran the HQ, killing or wounding hundreds of American troops including an artillery company completely wiped out, destroying 6 artillery pieces of the 173rd and 105mm calibres, and setting on fire 20 military vehicles.

WESTERN sources reported continued attacks by the PLAF throughout South Viet Nam in the first days of February.

On Jan. 31 and Feb. 3, 1969, the PLAF infantry and artillery mounted a series of attacks on U.S. puppet positions inside and around Saigon. Hue Da Nang, inflicting on the heavy losses. Gai Phong Press Agency reported. Early on Feb. 2, the liberation forces penetrated a base camp of the U.S. 1st Infantry Division northwest of Saigon, after firing hundreds of rounds of shells. First reports said a helicopter and 51 GIs were put out of action.

On the same day, the PLAF fought off for ten hours, at Go Dau, 57 km northwest of Saigon, many armoured units of the U.S. 25th Infantry Division who suffered many casualties. The enemy had to call in armed helicopters and artillery.

Earlier, on the night of Feb. 1st, 1969, the PLAF fought three successive battles

on ricefields against four companies of the U.S. 9th Infantry Division, only 20 km South of Saigon. Fighting lasted until past midnight. Many U.S. troops were killed or wounded. Meanwhile, in Saigon itself down the offices of the "civil defence" of the puppet administration in Cho Centre" in Gia Dinh on Jan. 31, 1969. On the night of Feb. 1st the homeguards in Saigon mounted a mine attack against a military truck park in the centre of the city, destroying many vehicles.

In Hue, at dawn on Feb. 31 the PLAF slammed artillery fire on two positions of the U.S. 101st Airborne Division in the southern sector of the town. U.S. sources said dozens of rounds of mortar fire from Division Headquarters and the relay radio station, causing considerable damage.

In Da Nang, the PLAF intercepted enemy units around the city and Hoi An town, 24 km south of Da Nang. 400 puppet troops were pinned down for two days (Feb. 1 and 2) along Highway 1 near the city, while U.S. Marines stationed nearby played possum.

Earlier, on Jan. 30, the prolonged operation conducted by 8,000 U.S. and Puppet troops against the Lang An (more than 150 km southwest of Da Nang) was virtually checked by the guerrillas and regional forces who decimated many enemy units, putting off of action 250 of them in the last week of Jan. alone.

3rd Session of Paris...

(Continued from page 2)

Vietnamese people's "right to self-defence". He also repeated his proposals on the DMZ and mutual withdrawal of troops.

U.S. proposals were backed by the representative of the Saigon administration, Pham Dang Lam, who, moreover, reiterated his slanders against the DRVN and her socialist regime.

The absurd and slanderous allegations of the U.S. and

puppet representatives were roundly disposed of by Mr. Nuan Thuy and Mr. Tran Bui Kiem right at the Conference session. They pointed out that the U.S. so-called concrete proposals only aimed at maintaining neo-colonialism in South Viet Nam, opposing the cessation of US aggressive war and prolonging and perpetuating Viet Nam's partition. The US and puppet representatives, in referring only to the status of the

DMZ, grossly perverted the Geneva Accords the fundamental spirit of which lies in the respect for the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Viet Nam.

Mr. Nuan Thuy also exposed the hypocrisy of U.S. rulers who simultaneously made profession of peace and goodwill and continued to send every day B2's to drop thousands of tons of bombs on South Vietnamese civilians and spray toxic chemicals on "South Vietnamese" ricefields and villages and planes to encroach upon the sovereignty and threaten the security of the DRVN.

INDUSTRIAL INSTALLATIONS

(Continued from page 3)

smith's trade and joinery. At the office of the administrative committee, Village Party Secretary G. Committee Chairman An and Committee Member Tan who was in charge of industrialization listened to a speech by a provincial cadre on the orientation of workshop production in the village.

Thanks to such selfless efforts, all workshops were soon put into operation. Fifty co-op members, as workers, received monthly wages while the others were fully met.

Provided with tools, insecticides and other materials by the spot industry, agriculture in L.S. has been making headway. Large-scale intensive cultivation has been carried out. Meanwhile, hundreds of young men have been able to join up or participate in other revolutionary activities.



Shook youth bearer unit carrying war wounded to the nearest medical station

ON THE LARGE SOUTHERN FRONT

MILITARY OPERATIONS

A SERIES OF ATTACKS ON GI'S IN SAIGON—BUE—DANANG

— Three puppet battalions northwest Saigon intercepted : more than 800 enemy casualties

— Two U.S. supply bases in Da Nang and Quy Nhon infiltrated : 8 million litres of oil, 48 storages and 31 military vehicles of various kinds burnt.

— Enemy "Accelerated pacification" operations foiled in six provinces in the Mekong delta : 1,200 enemy casualties.

SAIGON FRONT

ON Jan. 27 the PLAF in Tay Ninh province engaged a force fighting the 6th and 8th airborne battalions of the puppet army sent as reinforcements to the puppet troops garrisoned at Ta pang R'pon post tookm northwest of Saigon. Two violent clashes took place that day. In the first one which lasted from 7 to 8 a.m. the PLAF seized the initiative and wiped out one company. That night, the Liberation forces surrounded a cantonment of puppet paratroops till midnight. They stormed the enemy position and fought with hand-grenades and bayonets, wiping out another three companies. All told, on Jan. 27 the PLAF in Tay Ninh were responsible for 400 puppet casualties (including four companies). The Ta Pang R'pon post is under siege.

On Jan. 25 the regional forces in Duc Hoa district beat off an enemy battalion at Tan Pha village 35km

west northwest of Saigon when the latter moved in on an "accelerated pacification" operation. After an hour of bitter fighting, the regional forces killed or wounded 150 enemy troops and captured 40.

Earlier, between Jan. 13 and 22, the regional forces and guerrillas in Can Duoc, Can Giuoc and Thu Thua districts (30km south and Southeast of Saigon) put out of action 230 enemy troops (including two puppet companies wholly written off) and shot down 4 helicopters.

About 25km southeast of Saigon on the Long Tau river, the PLAF in Ben Hoa province sank or set afire 3 adverse military cargo ships on Jan. 11, 12 and 20, 1969. One of the ships had a displacement capacity of 12,000 tons, the other two, 10,000 tons each.

In the Mekong River delta, between Jan. 1 and 30, the regional forces and guerrillas in 6 provinces (My Tho, Go Cong, Ben Tre, Kien Phung,

(Continued page 7)



A plane-hunting team in Tay Ninh Province

JANUARY 1969 Brings New PLAF Victories

A LL the three kinds of people's armed forces of heroic South Viet Nam continued pushing up the revolutionary war in January, driving the US-puppets deeper into their passive defence on the whole battlefield.

ENEMY DEFENSIVE OPERATIONS FOILED

In January the enemy mustered in their "clear-and-hold" strategy, US and puppet troops, part of the 7th Fleet, and B52 strategic bombers, in joint operations chiefly directed against the mountainous regions west of Central Viet Nam and several provinces in Nam Bo (former Cochinchina).

The raiders, however, met with stiff resistance. Guerrillas in Huong Thuy district (Thua Thien province), for example, wiped out over 200 GIs and shot down 3 aircraft within a very short period and guerrillas and the regional army in Dai Loc district (Quang Nam province) put out of action more than 1,000 enemy troops among them 440 GIs, and knocked down three planes. Fighting off two major operations, the revolutionary forces in the Chu Pa Mountain area on the Central Viet Nam High Plateau inflicted on the enemy nearly 1,200 casualties among them 358 GIs, and destroyed 15 aircraft.

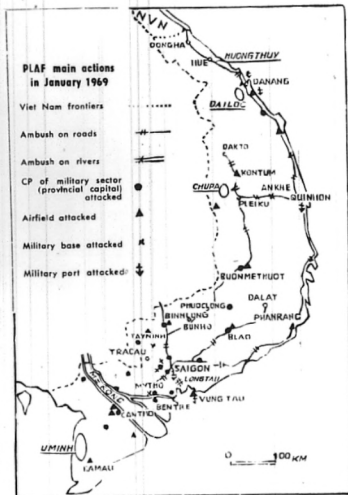
In the Nam Bo plain the patriotic forces beat off in the first days of January a large-

ENEMY LONG-RANGE DEFENCE LINES SMASHED

In his new deployment and to protect his positions in Saigon, the enemy lamed out the US 1st Air Mobile Cavalry into an outer defence perimeter running through Tay Ninh, Binh Long and Phuoc Long provinces to the North, and assigned the 1st and 25th Infantry Divisions of the U.S. and the 3rd and 25th Divisions of puppet army the defence of the inner perimeter. But in the first week of January alone, the Air Cav lost seven companies and five aircraft in Bau Bau, Bau Sen and Bu Nho. In Go Dau district (Tay Ninh province), the P.L.A.F. 24 and to January 26 wiped out 1 infantry battalion and 1 artillery company of the U.S., and destroyed 38 military vehicles, 4 artillery pieces, and 5 aircraft. In Bau Huynh district, same province, on January 13 the PLAF heavily decimated a puppet marine battalion, killing on the spot 170 of its men. In the first twelve days of January, the guerrillas and regional army in Trang Hang district (Tay Ninh province), and Ca Chi district (Gia Dinh

Sustained attacks and continual uprisings in the towns.

From January 4 to January 26, while the enemy was engaged in bloody battles on the outer defence perimeter, the revolutionary ground forces and artillery attacked 19 military sub-sectors, 16 military sectors, and 14 airfields. Also came under fire 18 positions of the US-puppets including the base camps or headquarters of the 1st, 25th, 9th Infantry Divisions, the 173rd Airborne Brigade, the 101st Airborne Division, the 11th Brigade of the American Division, of the U.S.; the headquarters of the 23rd, 25th and 7th Divisions of the puppet army; and the logistical complexes and military ports in Da Nang, Hoi An, Quy Nhon, Vung Tay and Nha Tr. Enm casualties in My Tho between January 7 and 21 totalled 800 and in Ben Tre over 300 up to January 10. The Binh Duc base of the U.S. from January 8 to 21 was six times assaulted with 25 aircraft destroyed and hundreds of GIs wiped out. Two successive attacks on the Lo Te airbase in Can



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